

Claims

1. Harvested mammary secretion product comprising an antibody specific for an antigen, said mammary secretion product obtainable by a method comprising
- hyperimmunizing a farm-animal for said antigen and
  - 5 - administering said antigen to a mammary gland and/or a supramammary lymph node of said animal and
  - harvesting said mammary secretion product from said farm-animal.
- 10 2. Secretion product according to claim 1, wherein hyperimmunizing comprises administering said antigen to an airway of said animal.
3. Secretion product according to claim 2, wherein said antigen is administered intra-nasally.
- 15 4. Secretion product according to any one of claims 1-3, wherein said mammary secretion product is milk.
5. Secretion product according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein said antibody is an IgA antibody.
- 20 6. Secretion product according to anyone of claims 1-5, further comprising boosting an immune response to said antigen in said animal.
7. Secretion product according to claim 6, wherein said boosting is
- 25 performed by administering said antigen to an airway, a mammary gland and/or a supramammary lymph node of said animal.

T02240 96054860

8. A mammary secretion product obtainable by a method according to any one of claims 1-7.

9. An antibody composition derived from a mammary secretion product  
5 according to any one of claims 1-8.

10. Use of a mammary secretion product according to any one of claims 1-8 or an antibody composition according to claim 9, for the preparation of a medicament.

10

11. A food product comprising a mammary secretion product according to anyone of claim 1-8 or an antibody composition according to claim 9.

12. A method for the treatment of microbial infection of a mammary gland in  
15 an animal comprising administering to said animal an antigen such that a high immune response is obtained and administering said antigen to a mammary gland and/or a supramammary lymph node of said animal, wherein said antigen comprises at least a part of said microbe or a functional derivative and/or analogue thereof.

20

13. A method according to claim 12, wherein said animal is suffering from or at risk of suffering from mastitis.

14. Use of an antigen for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment  
25 of a microbial infection of a mammary gland, wherein said medicament comprises a composition for airway administration of said antigen and a composition for mammary gland and/or supramammary lymph node administration of said antigen.

09445036-042701  
T02240-9504860

15. Use according to claim 14, wherein said microbial infection causes mastitis.

5 16. Mature milk obtainable from a mammal, comprising an antigen-specific antibody in a quantity of at least 50 percent of the average quantity of said antigen-specific antibody obtainable in colostrum from said mammal, wherein said colostrum is obtained after immunization of said mammal against said antigen.

10 17. Mature milk according to claim 16, wherein said antibody consists of IgA.

18. Mature milk according to claim 16 or 17, wherein said percentage is at least 100 percent.

15

T02240" 96054860